FIRST SET OF DOCUMENT AND INFORMATION REQUESTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY TO BOSTON GAS COMPANY, COLONIAL GAS COMPANY AND ESSEX GAS COMPANY D/B/A KEYSPAN ENERGY DELIVERY NEW ENGLAND

D.T.E. 04-62

Respondent: Ann Leary

<u>Information Request DTE 1-11</u>

- Q. Refer to Exh. KED/AEL-12. Please describe the basis for the proposed changes from the existing customer charge per month to a customer charge per 30-day month for Colonial Gas Company ("Colonial Gas") and Essex Gas Company ("Essex Gas").
- A. In <u>KeySpan Energy Delivery</u>, D.T.E. 02-32 (2002), the Company received approval from the Department to pro-rate customer bills based on a 30-day month because of the billing protocols implemented on the Customer-Related Information System ("CRIS"), which is the system that KeySpan uses to bill customers throughout its service territory. Therefore, in D.T.E. 02-32, the Department approved the pro-ration methodology for all three Massachusetts companies (<u>i.e.</u>, Colonial, Essex and Boston Gas). However, given the expedited time frame within which the Company sought approval of the billing change in D.T.E. 02-32, the Company did not, at that time, update the actual rate tariffs to incorporate mention of the billing change. The Company implemented the change for Boston Gas rate tariffs filed in D.T.E. 03-40 and, in this filing, is doing the same for Colonial and Essex.